

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/748,982

Examiner

Charlie Peng

Applicant(s)

MADER ET AL.

Art Unit

2883

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to remarks filed on 17 October 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 14-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
Brian Healy  
Primary Examiner

**DETAILED ACTION**

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Claims 9-13 had been previously withdrawn as drawn to a non-elected invention and will be canceled to place the application in condition for allowance.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 9-13.

***Reasons for Allowance***

Claim 1 is allowed. An affidavit filed by applicants under 37 CFR 1.131 shows a conception date of invention on or before June 14, 2002. The invention is drawn to an optical board extender for a XENPAK-sized casing. XENPAK (or 10 Gb Ethernet) standard was first established on March 12, 2001. It is the examiner's opinion that the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious one of an X2 and an XFP board coupled to a conversion board for operation in a XENPAK-sized casing, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim.

Claims 2-8 are allowed as dependent claims of claim 1.

Claim 14 is allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: XENPAK (10 Gigabit Ethernet), XPAK and X2 (10 Gigabit Small Form Factor Pluggable) are known in the art as optical communication standards. In fiber optical

Art Unit: 2883

applications, manufacturers have used small form factor optical modules (X2 and XPAK) instead of XENPAK modules because of the smaller size and the cost savings with using multiple ports associated with these smaller modules. Prior art does not teach a board extender coupled to an XFP board configured to communicate data between the X2 and XPAK board and a client computing device. It is the examiner's opinion that the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious one of an X2 and an XFP board coupled to a conversion board for operation in a XENPAK-sized casing, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claim.

Claims 15-20 are allowed as dependent claims of claim 14.

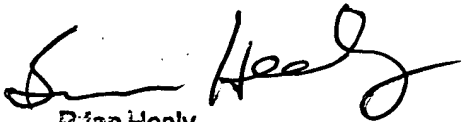
### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charlie Peng whose telephone number is (571) 272-2177. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am - 6 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank Font can be reached on (571) 272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

cyp

  
Brian Healy  
Primary Examiner